



CONTACT:
Nikki Boone 302-672-6857

For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE

The Delaware Tourism Office Announces Call for Nominations for the 2009 Governor's Tourism Awards

Awards recognize significant contributions to the state tourism industry

DOVER, Del. (January 14, 2009) — The Delaware Tourism Office, part of the Delaware Economic Development Office, today announced a call for entries for the 2009 Governor's Tourism Awards, recognizing significant contributions to the state tourism industry in four categories.

Awarded annually, individuals and organizations in the tourism industry statewide are eligible. An award will be presented in each category to an eligible tourism organization or individual that best demonstrates achievement of the industry's goals and objectives. The four categories include:

- The **Roy Klein Hall of Fame** award recognizes the long-term contribution to tourism by an individual. The nominee may be an industry professional or volunteer from the public or private sector and the award may be given posthumously. The nominee must be a Delaware resident who has significantly and measurably contributed to the industry.
- The **Hall of Fame** award recognizes an annual event that generates sustainable tourism. The event must have been held continuously for a minimum of 5 years and be open to the general public. Credible evidence of one-third of the attendees visiting from other states or of the event having generated overnight stays must be included with the nomination.
- The **Best Partnership** award recognizes a group of organizations that have formally banded together to increase their impact. The group's goals should include either joint product development or the promotion of the benefits of tourism to residents and government representatives. The group must have a commitment to a continuing effort to work together through ongoing programs. Participation in the group may be based on geography, industry sector, or a common theme or interest.
- The **Tourism Awareness and Advocate** award recognizes an individual, organization, or project for promoting the benefits of tourism to Delaware's residents. The value of tourism must be communicated in a clear and specific way.

Individuals and event producers may nominate themselves or their projects. Nominators must be actively involved in the travel and tourism industry, either professionally or as a volunteer.

Entries must be submitted by 4 p.m. on Thursday, February 12, 2009. Nominations received after the deadline will not be considered. Winners will be announced at the 2009 Governor's Tourism Awards Luncheon on Thursday, April 2, at the Heritage Shores Club in Bridgeville, Del. An entry kit and full details are available by contacting Marketing Coordinator Adam Berger at 302-672-6841 or adam.berger@state.de.us.

About Delaware Tourism Office

The Delaware Tourism Office, part of the Delaware Economic Development Office, promotes tourism and economic growth in Delaware. DTO is dedicated to fulfilling the requests and needs of travelers by offering information and resources about Delaware activities, attractions and destinations. For tourism industry information, visit <http://dedo.delaware.gov/Tourism.shtml>. For Delaware travel information, visit the official Delaware Tourism Web site at www.VisitDelaware.com or call toll-free 866-284-7483.

###